

From the attached list, choose a classic book by an American author that was banned for some reason by a school or district. Make sure the book is at your level (high school Honors level) and that the book was banned for the first time more than 15 years ago. Read the book and write an essay discussing the following:

1. Why do you think the book was banned? Be specific with examples from the book (page numbers)
2. Why was it really banned (do some research about the book)?
3. Do you agree or disagree with the decision to ban the book? Why? Explain clearly.
4. How does the culture of the time and the society relate to the banning of the book?
5. Would the book be banned today? Why?

Trait	Description		Points possible	Your score
Ideas and Content	has clear thesis statement (limited topic)	5	40	
	attention-getting, correct introduction	5		
	effective conclusion	5		
	directions followed (clear purpose)	5		
	shows (not tells) with examples/details	5		
	has revisions and final draft, research, documentation	10		
	Label and creative title and works cited	5		
Sentence Fluency	Transitional words and phrases used	3	15	
	Variety of sentences used	3		
	Clear, concise, complete sentences	3		
	Writing flows and makes sense	3		
	Different beginnings for sentences	3		
Word Choice	Uses specific, accurate, natural language	3	15	
	Active verbs used	3		
	Correct word choices/agreement	3		
	No slang or inappropriate words used	3		
	Formal language (no dead words)	3		
Organization	Correct length and format	4	15	
	Logically presented (focused on topic)	4		
	Consistent/appropriate point of view	4		
	Cites correct	3		
Voice	Honest/unique writing (not to impress)	3	10	
	confident and enthusiastic	4		
	takes audience into consideration	3		
Conventions	Fewer than 6 minor errors in grammar, usage, spelling, punctuation and capitalization (One point per error; on sixth error 0 points earned)	1	5	
		1		
		1		
		1		
		1		
Total points			100	

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1885) by Mark Twain

Andersonville (1955) by MacKinlay Kantor

All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren

An American Tragedy by Theodore Dreiser

Are You There, God, It's Me Margaret by Judy Blume

As I Lay Dying (1932) by William Faulkner

The Awakening by Kate Chopin

Beloved by Tony Morrison

Black Boy by Richard Wright

Bridge to Terabithia by Kathleen Patterson

Cat's Cradle by Kurt Vonnegut

Catch 22 by Joseph Heller

Catcher in the Rye (1951) by J. D. Salinger

The Claiming of Sleeping Beauty, Beauty's Punishment, Beauty's Release by Anne Rice (under the pseudonym, A.N. Roquelaure, written in the early 1980s)

The Color Purple by Alice Walker

The Drowning of Stephen Jones by Bette Greene

Don't Call Me Brother by Austin Miles

Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Meyers

A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes

Flowers in the Attic by V.C. Andrews

Forever by Judy Blume

Freedom and Order by Henry Steele Commager

From Here to Eternity by James Jones

The Glass Teat (1970) by Harlan Ellison

Grapes of Wrath (1939) by John Steinbeck

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Howl by Allen Ginsberg

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

The Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison

The Jungle by Upton Sinclair

The Last Mission (1979) by Harry Mazer

The Last of the Wine by Mary Renault

We All Fall Down by Robert Cormier

Nothing New on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving

Portnoy's Complaint (1969) by Philip Roth

Rabbit, Run by John Updike

Slaughter House Five by Kurt Vonnegut

There Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

Things Your Father Never Taught You by Robert Masullo

To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle